

**AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS**

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3       **1. (currently amended):** A method for generating a permission grant set for  
4 a code assembly received from a resource location, the method comprising:

5       receiving a security policy specification defining a plurality of code groups,  
6 each code group being associated with a code-group permission set;

7       receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;

8       evaluating the evidence relative to the code groups to determine  
9 membership of the code assembly in two or more of the code groups; and

10       generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-  
11 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-  
12 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code  
13 assembly is a member.

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15       **2. (previously presented):** The method of claim 1 wherein the generating  
16 operation comprises:

17       dynamically generating a code-group permission set based on permissions  
18 associated with the two or more code groups.

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20       **3. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the generating operation  
21 comprises:

22       computing a logical set operation on code-group permission sets associated  
23 with the code groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate the  
24 permission grant set.  
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1           4. (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the computing operation  
2 comprises:

3           computing the logical set operation based on order values associated with  
4 the code groups.

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6           5. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the generating operation  
7 comprises:

8           computing a union of the code-group permission sets associated with code  
9 groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate the permission grant  
10 set.

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12           6. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
13 specification further defines at least one code group collection associated with the  
14 plurality of code groups and the generating operation comprises:

15           selecting a code-group permission set associated with an individual code  
16 group of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to  
17 generate the permission grant set.

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19           7. (original): The method of claim 6 wherein the security policy  
20 specification defines the at least one code group collection as a code group  
21 hierarchy.

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1           8. (original): The method of claim 6 further comprising:

2           an exclusive property associated with the single code group indicating that  
3 the code-group permission set associated with the single code group is to be  
4 selected to generate the permission grant set.

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6           9. (original): The method of claim 8 further comprising:

7           an exclusive property associated with the single code group indicating that  
8 no code-group permission set associated with a code group existing below the  
9 single code group in a code group hierarchy is to be used to generate the  
10 permission grant set.

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12           10. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
13 specification further defines a policy level associated with the plurality of code  
14 groups, and the generating operation comprises:

15           computing a union of the code-group permission sets associated with code  
16 groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate a policy-level  
17 permission set; and

18           generating the permission grant set based on the policy-level permission set.  
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1           **11. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
2 specification further defines at least one code group collection associated with the  
3 plurality of code groups and a policy level associated with the at least one code  
4 group collection, and the generating operation comprises:

5           selecting a code-group permission set associated with an individual code  
6 group of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to  
7 generate a policy-level permission set; and

8           generating the permission grant set based on the policy-level permission set.  
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10           **12. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
11 specification further defines a plurality of policy levels, each policy level being  
12 associated with the plurality of code groups, and the generating operation  
13 comprises:

14           selecting, for each policy level, a code-group permission set associated with  
15 an individual code group in the code groups of the policy level in which the code  
16 assembly is a member to generate a corresponding policy-level permission set; and

17           merging the corresponding policy-level permission sets to generate the  
18 permission grant set.  
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20           **13. (original):** The method of claim 12 wherein the merging operation  
21 comprises:

22           computing an intersection of the corresponding policy-level permission sets  
23 associated with each policy level.  
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1       14. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
2 specification further defines a plurality of policy levels, each policy level being  
3 associated with a plurality of code groups, and the generating operation comprises:

4       computing, for each policy level, a union of the code-group permission sets  
5 associated with code groups of the policy level in which the code assembly is a  
6 member to generate a corresponding policy-level permission set; and

7       merging the corresponding policy-level permission sets to generate the  
8 permission grant set.

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10       15. (original): The method of claim 14 wherein the merging operation  
11 comprises:

12       computing an intersection of the corresponding policy-level permission sets  
13 associated with each policy level.

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15       16. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
16 specification further defines a plurality of ordered policy levels associated with the  
17 plurality of code groups, such that a first policy level defines a more restrictive  
18 security policy than a second policy level.

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20       17. (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
21       extracting from the security policy specification a membership criterion for  
22 a code group in the plurality of code groups.

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1       **18. (original):** The method of claim 17 wherein the evaluating operation  
2 comprises:

3       extracting one or more trust characteristics from the evidence;  
4       evaluating the trust characteristics relative to the membership criterion; and  
5       identifying the code assembly as a member of the code group, if the one or  
6 more trust characteristics satisfy the membership criterion.

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8       **19. (original):** The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
9       extracting from the security policy specification a code-group permission  
10 set for each code group in the plurality of code groups.

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12       **20. (original):** The method of claim 1 wherein the security policy  
13 specification further describes at least one code group hierarchy associated with  
14 the plurality of code groups, each code group collection including a parent code  
15 group, and further comprising:

16       extracting from the security policy specification a definition of at least one  
17 child code group of the parent code group in the at least one code group collection.

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19       **21. (original):** The method of claim 20 wherein the evaluating operation  
20 comprises:

21       determining whether the code assembly is a member of the parent code  
22 group; and

23       determining whether the code assembly is a member of the at least one child  
24 code group, if the code assembly is a member of the parent code group.

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1       22. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2       performing verification on the code assembly;  
3       detecting a verification failure of the code assembly in the operation of  
4       performing verification; and  
5       determining based on the permission grant set whether the code assembly  
6       may be executed despite the verification failure.

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8       23. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
9       determining based on the permission grant set that a step of a verification  
10      process is unnecessary;  
11      communicating to a verification module that the step of the verification  
12      process may be bypassed;  
13      performing the verification process on the code assembly with the  
14      verification module; and  
15      bypassing the step of the verification process, responsive to the  
16      communicating operation.

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1       24. (currently amended): A computer data signal embodied in a carrier  
2 wave by a computing system and encoding a computer program for executing a  
3 computer process generating a permission grant set for a code assembly received  
4 from a resource location, the computer process comprising:

5           receiving a security policy specification defining a plurality of code groups,  
6 each code group being associated with a code-group permission set;

7           receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;

8           evaluating the evidence relative to the code groups to determine  
9 membership of the code assembly in two or more of the code groups; and

10          generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-  
11 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-  
12 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code  
13 assembly is a member.

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1       **25.** (currently amended): A computer program storage medium readable by  
2 a computer system and encoding a computer program for executing a computer  
3 process generating a permission grant set for a code assembly received from a  
4 resource location, the computer process comprising:

5       receiving a security policy specification defining a plurality of code groups,  
6 each code group being associated with a code-group permission set;

7       receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;

8       evaluating the evidence relative to the code groups to determine  
9 membership of the code assembly in two or more of the code groups; and

10       generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-  
11 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-  
12 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code  
13 assembly is a member.

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15       **26.-36.** (canceled)  
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1        37. (currently amended): A computer program product encoding a  
2 computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process for  
3 generating a permission grant set for a code assembly received from a resource  
4 location, the code assembly being associated with an evidence set, the computer  
5 process comprising:

6        receiving a security policy specification defining at least one code group  
7 collection having two or more code groups, each code group being associated with  
8 a code-group permission set;

9        evaluating the evidence set relative to the code group collection to  
10 determine membership of the code assembly in two or more code groups of the  
11 code group collection; and

12        generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more code-  
13 group permission sets, each code-group permission set of the two or more code-  
14 group permission sets being associated with a code group in which the code  
15 assembly is a member.

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17        38. (original): The program product of claim 37 wherein the generating  
18 operation comprises:

19        computing a union of the code-group permission sets associated with code  
20 groups of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to  
21 generate the permission grant set.

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1       **39. (original):** The program product of claim 37 wherein the generating  
2 operation comprises:

3       selecting a code-group permission set associated with an individual code  
4 group of the code group collection in which the code assembly is a member to  
5 generate the permission grant set.

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7       **40. (previously presented):** The program product of claim 37 wherein the  
8 security policy specification further defines a plurality of policy levels associated  
9 with the two or more code groups, and the generating operation comprises:

10       computing, for each policy level, a union of the code-group permission sets  
11 associated with code groups in which the code assembly is a member to generate a  
12 corresponding policy-level permission set; and

13       generating the permission grant set based on the corresponding policy-level  
14 permission set of each policy level.

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16       **41. (currently amended):** The program product of claim 40 wherein the  
17 operation of generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more  
18 code-group permission sets further comprises:

19       computing an intersection of the corresponding policy-level permission sets  
20 associated with each policy level.

1       **42.** (currently amended): The program product of claim 40 wherein the  
2 operation of generating the permission grant set ~~based on~~ by merging two or more  
3 code-group permission sets further comprises:

4       computing an intersection of a subset of the corresponding policy-level  
5 permission sets.

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7       **43.** (original): The program product of claim 37 wherein the computer  
8 process further comprises:

9       extracting from the security policy specification a membership criterion for  
10 a code group in the plurality of code groups.

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12       **44.** (original): The program product of claim 43 wherein the evaluating  
13 operation comprises:

14       extracting one or more trust characteristics from the evidence;  
15       evaluating the trust characteristics relative to the membership criterion; and  
16       identifying the code assembly as a member of the code group, if the trust  
17 characteristics satisfy the membership criterion.

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19       **45.** (previously presented): The program product of claim 37, wherein the  
20 computer process further comprises:

21       caching the permission grant set in association with the evidence; and  
22       outputting the permission grant set in response to a subsequent receipt of  
23 the evidence without re-evaluating the evidence.

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25       **46.-48.** (canceled)

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2       **49. (original):** A method of verifying a code assembly received from a  
3 resource location, the method comprising:

4       receiving a security policy specification defining a security policy;  
5       receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;  
6       evaluating the evidence relative to the security policy;  
7       performing verification on the code assembly;  
8       detecting a verification failure of the code assembly in the operation of  
9 performing verification; and  
10       determining whether the code assembly may be executed despite the  
11 verification failure, responsive to the evaluating operation.

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13       **50. (original):** The method of claim 49 wherein the operation of receiving  
14 evidence comprises:

15       receiving evidence associated with a class of the code assembly.

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17       **51. (original):** The method of claim 49 wherein the operation of receiving  
18 evidence comprises:

19       receiving evidence associated with a module of the code assembly.

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21       **52. (original):** The method of claim 49 wherein the operation of receiving  
22 evidence comprises:

23       receiving evidence associated with a method of the code assembly.  
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1       **53.** (previously presented): A method of verifying a code assembly  
2 received from a resource location, the method comprising:  
3       receiving a security policy specification defining a security policy;  
4       receiving evidence associated with the code assembly;  
5       evaluating the evidence relative to the security policy;  
6       generating a permission grant set, responsive to the evaluating operation;  
7       determining based on the permission grant set that a step of a verification  
8 process is unnecessary;  
9       communicating to a verification module that the step of the verification  
10 process may be bypassed;  
11       performing the verification process on the code assembly with the  
12 verification module; and  
13       bypassing the step of the verification process, responsive to the  
14 communicating operation.  
15

16       **54.** (original): The method of claim 53 wherein the generating operation  
17 comprises:  
18       generating the permission grant set in association with a module of the code  
19 assembly, responsive to the evaluating operation.  
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21       **55.** (original): The method of claim 53 wherein the generating operation  
22 comprises:  
23       generating the permission grant set in association with a class of the code  
24 assembly, responsive to the evaluating operation.  
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1           **56. (original):** The method of claim 53 wherein the generating operation  
2 comprises:

3           generating the permission grant set in association with a method of the code  
4 assembly, responsive to the evaluating operation.  
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